GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3088
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2003
BY-PASS ON NATIONAL HIGHWAY-31
AMAR ROY PRADHAN

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the time when the construction of by-pass on NH-31 from Falakata to Pundibari and a bridge over river Torsha in West Bengal started;

(b) the estimated cost and the amount already spent alongwith the share of Central and State Governments separately in the expenditure incurred thereon ;

(c) the reasons for delay in the completion of work, if any;

(d) the time by which it is likely to be completed; and

(e) the official responsible for cost overrun due to delay in the completion of the work?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK)

(a) The construction of bypass on NH-31 from Falakata to Pundibari was started in November 1991 and bridge over river Torsa was started in December, 1992.

(b) Work was originally sanctioned at a total cost of Rs.1371.42 lakh. 1st revised cost estimate was sanctioned at a cost of Rs.3671.15 lakh. Expenditure incurred till date is Rs.3587.13 lakh which is entirely borne by the Central Government.

(c) After original sanction there was delay in finalization of tenders / award of work by the state PWD of about 42 months. There were further delays due to contractual problems and work has been stopped by the contractors since 2001. After repeated reminders the 2nd revised cost estimate has been received on 01.07.2003.

(d) After approval of revised cost estimate and award of balance work it will take about 20 months for completion.

(e) Though the State Government has been requested to fix theresponsibility for the cost-overrun, no response has been received from them.